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Invitation To Senator Wicker To Meet Armenia's Largest Pro-Western Political Party

4 messages

Elias Gerasoulis <elias@moranstrategies.com>

Tue, Jul 2, 2024 at 6:57 PM

To: michelle_richardson@wicker.senate.gov, beth_spivey@wicker.senate.gov, jen_jett@wicker.senate.gov

Bcc: nadine@moranstrategies.com

Dear Ms. Richardson, Ms. Spivey, & Ms. Jett:

My firm and I represent the National Democratic Alliance (NDA), Armenia's largest pro-Western/anti-Kremlin political party. The NDA has had a major role in Armenia's shift towards the West, and advocates for Armenia's withdrawal from the CSTO and the removal of Russian military bases from Armenia. Furthermore, NDA seeks a close alliance between the United States and Armenia, including in the area of defense. NDA is also a strong supporter of Ukraine, and was the first political force in Armenia to raise the Ukrainian flag.

The leadership of the NDA have visited Washington, DC on many occasions to meet with senior U.S. policymakers, and senior U.S. policymakers have met with NDA leadership in Armenia. The NDA has enjoyed strong bipartisan support in Congress. In November of 2023, the House Congressional Helsinki Delegation, led by Congressman Joe Wilson (R-SC) and Congresswoman Victoria Spartz (R-IN), met with the NDA in Yerevan, Armenia. The meeting of Reps. Wilson and Spartz had been well-publicized in Armenian media. More details can be seen here: <https://ajbever.com/en/press-statement/w>

I understand Senator Wicker will be in Armenia between July 2-5. To that effect, I want to extend an invitation to meet with the leadership of the NDA, during his time in Armenia. I think this would be of mutual benefit, especially given the Senator's longtime role and leadership in the U.S. Helsinki Commission. Please let me know if this is possible, and of interest.

Sincerely,

Elias Gerasoulis

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On November 19th, 2023, members of the Governing Council of the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) Jirayr Sefilian, Ara Papian, and Garo Yeghukian met with a delegation from the United States House of Representatives led by Congressman Joe Wilson (R-SC) and included Congresswoman Victoria Spartz (R-IN) and the Executive Director of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (Helsinki Commission), Steven Schrage.

Congressman Wilson is the Chair of the joint Senate-Congress Helsinki Commission and serves as a senior member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee where he is the Chair of the Middle East, North Africa, and Central Asia Subcommittee and a member of the Subcommittee on Europe. He is also the most senior member of the House Armed Services Committee where he is on the Subcommittees on Readiness and also Strategic Forces.

During the meeting, which lasted 1.5 hours, NDA leaders and the Congressional delegation discussed a wide range of topics, centering around the role that NDA can play in Yerevan and

